

CLAIMS:

1-31. (Canceled)

32. (New) A method comprising:

terminating a plurality of applications running in an operating system environment that supports dynamic removal of a first processor cluster from a plurality of processor clusters, the first processor cluster including a first plurality of processors and a first interconnection controller interconnected using a point-to-point architecture;

identifying the first processor cluster for removal;

flushing a plurality of caches associated with the first processor cluster;

modifying a plurality of routing tables associated with each processor cluster to reflect removal of the first processor cluster;

disabling link layer communications associated with the first processor cluster, wherein the first processor cluster is disconnected after disabling link layer communications associated with the first processor cluster;

maintaining physical layer communications associated with the first processor cluster to allow connection of a replacement processor cluster.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein a fence bit is written by a service processor.

34. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein a fence bit is written by a JTAG interface associated with a processor.

35. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the first cluster of processors and a second cluster of processors share a single virtual address space.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the second cluster of processor includes a second interconnection controller.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the second interconnection controller includes a physical layer enable indicator.

38. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the second interconnection controller includes a fence indicator configurable to prevent the transmission of logical packets between the first interconnection controller and the second interconnection controller.

39. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the second interconnection controller includes a reinitialization indicator configurable to direct the second interconnection controller to reinitialize the link.

40. (New) A system comprising:

an interface operable to receive a termination signal to terminate operation of a plurality of applications running in an operating system environment that supports dynamic removal of a first processor cluster from a plurality of processor clusters, the first processor cluster including a first plurality of processors and a first interconnection controller interconnected using a point-to-point architecture;

logic operable to identify a first processor cluster for removal and flush a plurality of caches associated with the first processor cluster, the logic further operable to modify a plurality of routing tables associated with each processor cluster to reflect removal of the first processor cluster;

wherein the first processor cluster is disconnected after link layer communications associated with the first processor cluster are disabled, wherein physical layer communications associated with the first processor cluster are maintained to allow connection of a replacement processor cluster.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein a fence bit is written by a service processor.

42. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein a fence bit is written by a JTAG interface associated with a processor.

43. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the first cluster of processors and a second cluster of processors share a single virtual address space.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the second cluster of processor includes a second interconnection controller.

45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the second interconnection controller includes a physical layer enable indicator.

46. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the second interconnection controller includes a fence indicator configurable to prevent the transmission of logical packets between the first interconnection controller and the second interconnection controller.

47. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the second interconnection controller includes a reinitialization indicator configurable to direct the second interconnection controller to reinitialize the link.

48. (New) An apparatus comprising:

means for terminating a plurality of applications running in an operating system environment that supports dynamic removal of a first processor cluster from a plurality of processor clusters, the first processor cluster including a first plurality of processors and a first interconnection controller interconnected using a point-to-point architecture;

means for identifying a first processor cluster for removal;
means for flushing a plurality of caches associated with the first processor cluster;
means for modifying a plurality of routing tables associated with each processor cluster
to reflect removal of the first processor cluster;
means for disabling link layer communications associated with the first processor cluster,
wherein the first processor cluster is disconnected after disabling link layer communications
associated with the first processor cluster;
means for maintaining physical layer communications associated with the first processor
cluster to allow connection of a replacement processor cluster.

49. (New) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein a fence bit is written by a service
processor.

50. (New) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein a fence bit is written by a JTAG interface
associated with a processor.

51. (New) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the first cluster of processors and the
second cluster of processors share a single virtual address space.